

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 were pending. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 4 are amended to correct minor informalities. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration and allowance of pending claims 1-7 are respectfully solicited in view of the following remarks.

Claim 1 was objected to because of the grammatical informality in the recitation "a controller *for* control the multiplexer." As suggested by the Examiner, Applicant has amended this claim to recite "a controller to control the multiplexer."

Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2, as being indefinite with respect to whether claims 1 and 4 were in Jepson format. As suggested by the Examiner, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 4 to explicitly place them in Jepson format. Applicant submits that amended claims 1 and 4, as well as their respective dependent claims, are definite and respectfully requests the withdrawal of the indefiniteness rejection.

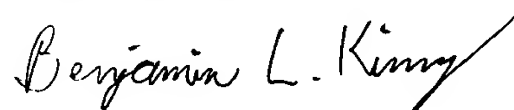
Claims 1-7 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-3 of copending Application No. 09/874,377. Applicant traverses this rejection via the attached terminal disclaimer pursuant to 37 CFR 1.321(c).

Applicant submits that pending claims 1-7 are now in condition for allowance, a notice of which is earnestly solicited.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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